

Attachment 3.1-BD

**STATE DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC WELFARE**  
JOHN H. REAGAN BUILDING, AUSTIN, TEXAS 78701



RAYMOND VOWELL  
COMMISSIONER

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August 19, 1975

Mr. Floyd D. Brandon  
Regional Commissioner, SRS  
Department of Health, Education, and Welfare  
1114 Commerce Street  
Dallas, Texas 75202

Dear Mr. Brandon:

In accordance with Mr. James Adams' letter of June 17th concerning the medical transportation plan, enclosed are copies of implementing materials and guidelines.

In view of the fact that the department's appropriation for this program was less than the requested amount, the enclosed materials reflect some necessary revisions in the original implementation plans. However, no changes in the provisions of the state plan amendment which was approved by your office have been contemplated, and the minimum requirements set out in your letter of April 2nd and the court order will be met.

With regard to the interpretation of certain provisions in the plan described in Mr. Adams' letter of June 17th, it is my understanding that the discussion between Mr. Wes Hjernevik and Mr. Charles Stricklin on May 9th involved the following items:

1. Item 2.c. in Attachment 3.1B indicates that volunteer and other free sources of transportation, including available individual recipient's transportation, will be utilized to the fullest extent. Of course, this does not mean that a recipient will be required to expend all of his exempted resources to obtain transportation before the department provides such services. It is merely intended to satisfy the requirements of MSA-PRG-17 and your letter of April 2nd that costs must be paid only where transportation is not otherwise available, as reasonably determined on an individual basis.

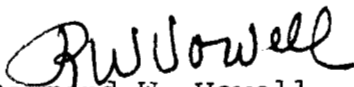
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2. Item 12 in Attachment 4.19B indicates the basis of payment for these services. It is recognized that the applicable federal matching rate will be determined in accordance with the requirements of Title XIX. However, in our opinion the interpretation that all "assurance contracts" are matchable only at the administrative rate of 50% is unreasonable and should be reconsidered. These services will be directly identified with particular eligible individuals, and therefore the medical assistance matching rate should apply.

3. Item 14.e in Attachment to Attachment 3.14-A provides for exceptions to the transportation provisions contained in the plan. It was our intention that the exceptions will be for the authorization of additional services.

I am sure you will find these transportation arrangements satisfactory. However, if you have any questions about the implementation materials, please let us know.

Very truly yours,

  
Raymond W. Vowell

RWV:jbm

